



Department Updates

May 2018

In This Issue:

Health & Human Services	1
Aging & ADRC	2

Health & Human Services

Stacey Frolik, Director

The week of April 16 was a busy week for the Youth and Families Unit. We participated in the Children and Family Services Review for the State of Wisconsin. A total of 65 child welfare cases were reviewed in the State. The areas of Safety, Permanency and Well-Being were the focus. Other counties which were participants were Brown and Milwaukee. There were a total of 25 State and Federal reviewers onsite for the week. The debriefing held at the end of the week summarized the strengths and areas in need of improvement. Strengths included the timeliness of initial face to face contact with the alleged victims (children), assessment of educational needs, foster parent relationships, and placement stability for children in out of home care. Areas in need of improvement included engaging the absent parent in services, Domestic Violence Services and time from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption. The next steps will be to have a meeting with State stakeholders to create a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) for the entire State. The PIP will

then be implemented over a three year period and monitored for a 2 year period. The review happens every 5 years in Wisconsin.

We are in the process of joining a new consortium for Comprehensive Community Services, services for those with substance abuse and mental health concerns across a lifespan (youth through adulthood). As of 1/1/2019 we will be joining Eau Claire and St. Croix counties for this service delivery. We held our first coordinating committee meeting on April 27th. If you or anyone you know are interested in joining the coordinating committee, contact Jeni Olson 715-537-6136 for more information.

Public Health, in collaboration with the health systems in Barron County are in the process of completing the Community Health Assessment. The survey deadline is past and now the data is being compiled and reviewed. Community discussions to review community health data, survey results, offer input and discuss next steps will be held Sept. 26, 2018. Watch for details in early September!

The Wisconsin Department of Children and Families has released a video for the purpose of recruitment of social workers into the child welfare field. The video are very realistic and well done. We will incorporate the videos in our future hiring process.

[Click Here to View Video](#)

ORANGE CONES PUT DOWN THE PHONES

It is illegal to talk on a handheld mobile device in a Wisconsin road work zone!



Aging / ADRC

Jennifer Jako, Director

The Aging & Disability Resource Center's (ADRC) mission is to empower and support older adults, people with disabilities, and their families - to ask for help, find a way to live with dignity and security, and achieve maximum independence and quality of life.

ADRC staff serve and support our community in a variety of ways by linking them with resources and/or providing services. Our customers cover a wide spectrum: older adults and adults with disabilities, their families, friends, caregivers, neighbors, and guardians. We assist physicians, discharge planners, social workers, care managers, businesses and employers. The ADRC has a wide range of programs including: Meals on Wheels, AddLIFE Transit, Senior Dining, DAYBREAK, Benefits Counseling, Healthy Aging Workshops, and Dementia Care services.

Population projections show that 30% of Barron County residents will be 65 years old and older by year 2030. In order to provide services our aging customers need and want, we create an "Aging Plan" every 3 years. This year we will create our 2019-2021 plan. The focus areas in this plan include: Nutrition, Support of Caregivers, Dementia Care, and Healthy Aging. We will also include any local priorities that are identified.

We are busy collecting public input for the 2019 – 2021 Aging Plan from all of our customers. We reach a wide variety of people in a variety of ways including paper surveys, online surveys, focus groups, support groups, events, etc. I encourage all of you to take our quick 3-question survey online to give input. Go to our website <http://www.adrcconnections.org/home> and scroll down to "Barron County 2019-2021 Aging Plan Survey" link. We want to know what people think are the most important issues facing older adults as well as

what services or ideas would help you or a loved one age well in Barron County. All ideas are welcome!

- As mentioned above, Dementia Care remains a top priority for the ADRC. The Department of Health Services (DHS) just released their plan for a Dementia-Capable Wisconsin. The four major categories include: care in communities, health care, dementia-related crisis response, and facility-based care. I encourage you to read the results at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02137.pdf>. These goals align with our local goals and we will use these to guide the work we do in the community. Our Dementia Care Specialist (DCS) has many upcoming events or learning opportunities approaching:
 - Former Governor Martin Schreiber will be speaking on dementia on Monday, May 21st, noon-3pm at the Ladysmith Care Community.
 - Dementia Friendly Business Training Day in Chetek is set for Thursday, May 30th.
 - "Steering Into the Skid" – a one act memory care play that helps family members, caregivers, and the broader community openly discuss dementia. This is a free event, which includes lunch and guided discussion after the play. It will be held Tuesday, June 19th, 11:30am-2:30pm at Mosaic Telecom in Cameron. Seating is limited. Register with the ADRC at ext. 6225.
 - "Reelin' in New Memories" will be held Wednesday, June 27th, at Veteran's Park in Spooner from 11am-1pm. This event is for those with early stage memory loss. Attendees will be paired with a local angler to do some fishing and share fishing memories. Lunch is included.
- For more information about any of these events, contact the ADRC at ex 6225.
- Volunteers are critical to the mission of the ADRC. We recently held our annual Volunteer Recognition event to say thank you to the many people who volunteer for our programs. Some of the fun facts from 2017 include:
- Over 300 volunteers helped serve within many of our programs.
 - Senior Dining meal site volunteers provided 6,103 hours of service which saved our Nutrition Program \$44,250.
 - Over 53,000 Meals on Wheels were delivered in 2017, and many of them by volunteers.
 - 9 dedicated volunteers helped distribute 4,530 grocery bags for our commodity program.
 - DAYBREAK volunteers provided 6,036 hours of service which saved the program \$54,324.
 - Tax-Aide volunteers assisted nearly 1,000 people with their Federal, State and Homestead Tax forms.
 - 9 volunteer leaders helped lead and graduate 115 people in our Healthy Aging programs.
 - 8 volunteer coaches trained 82 people on tablets. This training allows people to learn more about technology and helps keep people connected to their family and providers.
- We are very fortunate to have people willing to share their passion, energy and commitment to support our efforts to ensure people have the resources and information they need to continue to live independently. We could not do what we do without our dedicated volunteers!